

## Davidstow Community Windfarm

21<sup>st</sup> July 2008



Community Windpower Ltd have submitted a planning application for the proposed Davidstow Community Windfarm, to North Cornwall District Council Planning Department. Davidstow Community Windfarm would provide approximately 50% of the remaining installed capacity required for Cornwall's 2010 renewable energy target of 93-108 megawatts (MW) in one development in a remote area. The proposed 20 wind turbines would be capable of generating up to 50MW of clean, green renewable energy and is unique in its commitment to reducing fuel poverty in Cornwall.

Fuel poverty is a serious issue; in the South West approximately 250,000 households are in fuel poverty with over 45,000 of these found in Cornwall. The main contributing factors to fuel poverty in Cornwall are the lack of access to mains gas supply, a high proportion of older housing with no cavity walls and a high proportion of detached properties causing higher heat loss. Currently, Community Energy Plus (CEP) manage the Home Health Project, in conjunction with the North Cornwall District Council, to help combat fuel poverty by improving the energy efficiency of households to reduce fuel bills.

As part of the benefits available from the windfarm proposal, Community Windpower Ltd will work in conjunction with CEP and the Home Health Project, and provide annual top-up funding of £15,000 towards the project. An initial £100,000 funding will also be available for the Camelford Carbon Neutral Project for energy efficiency schemes, advice and improvements to individual households in the Camelford area. This programme would receive an additional £50,000 per annum for the following 10 years once the windfarm is in operation.

Development of the windfarm would bring over £62 million of investment to local and regional economies, through out the lifetime of the project with supply and construction contracts alone bringing £35 million to the region. Seven full-time permanent jobs would be created as a result of the development. Community Windpower Ltd will also operate a 'Green Electricity' Voucher Scheme for all households within 2km of the windfarm boundary, who by switching to a 'green tariff', will annually receive vouchers which can be redeemed against their electricity bills, helping to reduce the cost of living particularly as electricity is the main source of heating and energy prices are rising rapidly.

The proposal would be located approximately 2.1km east of Camelford and 2.2km south of Tremail, within the existing clearings in Davidstow Woods and on farmland to the south of the Woods. The areas elevated and exposed position with high wind speeds, makes the location one of the best suited sites in Cornwall to capture wind energy and generate electricity.

Electricity generated by the windfarm will be exported via underground cables to the existing overhead power lines, joining in to the local distribution network. Using the standard industry capacity factor of 30%, Davidstow Community Windfarm is anticipated to generate around 131,400 million units of electricity per year; enough electricity to annually power approximately 28,000 homes, equating to about 81% of the households in North Cornwall, based on 2001 Census statistics.

Further details on the proposed Davidstow Community Windfarm and a Non-Technical Summary are available at [www.davidstowcommunitywindfarm.co.uk](http://www.davidstowcommunitywindfarm.co.uk).